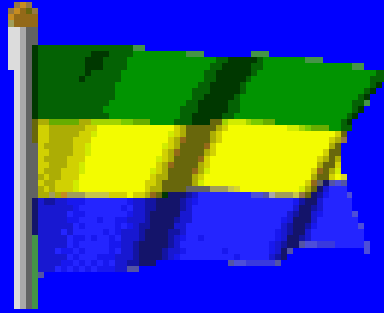


TRAVELER'S BRIEFING



GABON

(Republique Gabonaise)



BACKGROUND

Full Name: Gabonese Republic

Capital: Libreville

Population: 1,225,853 (est)

Type of government: Republic

**Head of government: PM Jean-Francoise
Ntoutoume-Emane**

Official language(s) French, Fang, Myen

**Economy: Capitalist, relatively
prosperous for Africa**

Religions: Christian (75%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: None.



International Airport: Libreville

Flights from Frankfurt: None.

Other methods of arrival: Ship/Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: Boulevard de la Mer, Libreville

Tel: 241-76-20-03/04 FAX: None

Transportation: Public transportation: Poor.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Poor

Rural roads/Maintenance: Poor.

Availability of roadside assistance: Poor.

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: Military personnel on leave require passports and visas. Identification cards and orders are required. Orders must be in French and English. For official travel, no-fee passports and visas are required. Military personnel on leave do not require clearance or advance notice, but do require identification credentials. DoS recommends all tourists also have a valid return ticket as well as a letter, in French, confirming hotel reservations or an
Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required.



Duty-free entry for personal effects: cameras (1 still and 1 movie) and 2 rolls of film each, jewelry (limited to 1.1 pounds), portable typewriter, electric razor, record player and 20 records, field glasses, sport equipment, 250 cigars, 1,000

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: Facilities for tourism outside the capital city, Libreville, are available, but often limited. License is required for firearms. Do not use cameras at airport or photograph the presidential palace downtown.



Amembassy duty hours are Mon, Tue, Thu, and Fri 0730L-1300L and 1430L-1730L; Wed 0730L-1300L only.

MONEY

Currency restrictions: Declare all currency. There is no limit on foreign currency imports. Credit cards are rarely accepted. Travelers checks may be cashed at local banks. .



Rate: Approximate: 500 CFA francs for \$1.

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HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, malaria, arthropod-borne diseases, schistosomiasis, STDs, and heat injuries.

Availability of medical services: Poor. Medical facilities in Gabon's major cities are limited, but generally unavailable.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Gabon. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Poor

Health Precautions: Yellow fever vaccination required of all travelers over one year of age.

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B, MMR, typhoid, influenza, yellow fever, and TD.

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance is needed for high-ranking officers traveling to Gabon. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Boil water and use canned or dried milk. Wash and peel fruits; wash and preferably cook vegetables. Eat at recommended places. Antimalarial drugs or mosquito nets are recommended.



CRIME

Criminal Activities: Petty thievery is common in urban areas. Violent crime such as armed robbery, while not endemic, does occur. The loss or theft abroad of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to local police and to the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.



Gabon is strict on: Drugs. Penalties for possession, use or trafficking in illegal drugs are strict. Convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and fines.

WEATHER

<http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html>

<Http://www.weatherunderground.com/>

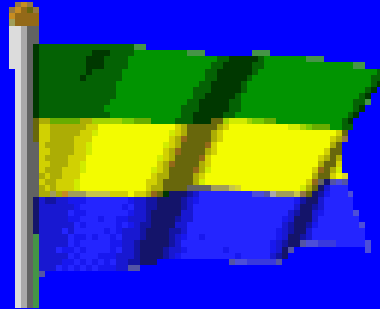
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CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Not Applicable.



**This concludes the
TRAVELER'S
BRIEFING for**



GABON